



About Louisville's New Comprehensive Smoke-Free Law...

When did the new law go into effect?

January 11, 2008

Which buildings are covered?

The new law prohibits smoking in public buildings and workplaces in Louisville Metro. The new law prohibits smoking in such places as:

- Offices
- Factories
- Bars
- Restaurants
- Private Clubs
- Bingo halls
- Bowling alleys
- Stores.

The law exempts tobacco research and development facilities. The law does not apply to private homes. Hotels and motels may permit smoking in private rooms. However common areas, such as lobbies and elevators must be smoke free.

What are the penalties?

When appropriate, citations will be issued to building owners, lessees, business managers, and smokers in violation of the law.

Fines for violating the comprehensive Smoke Free Law are:

- First offense - \$50 to \$100
- Second offense - \$150 to \$250
- Third and subsequent offenses - \$350 to \$500

Citizens refusing to abide by the law can be fined the same as business operators. Those who refuse to stop smoking in a public building can be asked by the management to leave the premises and, if they refuse, be charged with criminal trespass.

How will the comprehensive Smoke Free Law be enforced?

Environmentalists from the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness will investigate complaints as they are received and in the course of their normal inspection duties.

What should I do if I see someone violating the Smoke Free Law?

If you see someone smoking in a public building, workplace, or area:

1. Inform the business owner or manager.
2. If smoking continues, phone MetroCall at 311 to register a complaint.